Due to the critical shortfall situation with 5.56mm Ball/SAW ammunition, the CONUS MACOM were not able to exchange supply allocations at the April Committee for Ammunition Logistics Support conference. We have waited until now to take this action, as we hoped the manufacturing problem would dissolve.

This means that TRADOC has not been provided 5.56mm supply for non-TRADOC units.

Effective immediately, you should not supply 5.56mm Ball/SAW ammunition to non-TRADOC units. Reserve/NG schools under TASS are TRADOC activities.

Allow your tenants support through May, but alert all other customers that we can not support them since their MACOM did not give us 5.56mm supply allocations.

DA has not determined the fault or the fix for the current manufacturing stoppage.
We are working closely with DA G-3 & G-4 to obtain the minimum necessary to support your training.
We have resourced all training through June and are now gathering shortfall data for July.

The outlook is not good. Test community reports the USMC encountered two more bullet-in-bore failures in their testing. We will advise you as soon as anything develops.

Recommend you take all prudent steps to conserve 5.56mm ball/SAW use. Do not allow any use outside POI/course allowances, aggressively seek returns from ranges, return lost lot identity rounds to service with a local lot number as soon as possible, and only open packaging "when needed".

5.56mm Ball/SAW Ammo

Requirement: M16A2 Rifle and SAW is 38.6M Profile (thru 30 Sep 02)

	Required	Assets[1]	Delta	Run Out	Due In[2]	EDD
Benning	10.5M	5.5M	5.0M	20 July		
Jackson	9.8M	4.6M	5.2M	5 July		
Knox	3.4M	1.7M	1.7M	9 Jun	0.5M	29 May
Sill	6.1M	3.6M	2.5M	15 Jul		
Wood	7.8M	1.2M	6.6M	23 May	2.0M	20 May
ROTC[3]	0.5M	0.0M	0.5M		0.5M	3 Jun
USMA	0.6M	0.3M	0.3M	1 Jul	0.3M	3 Jun

[1]Assets include A1, A2, and SAW

[2]A1 ammo released by G4; these May deliveries will last sites through Jun

[3]Advanced Camp/USMA training start date 1 Jun

5.56mm Ball/SAW Ammo

- Why the shortfall?
  - Oil fouled primers, AMC insists on testing all suspect lots; DA froze all issues
- What action is being taken?
  - TRADOC requested G4 (1) substitute limited Depot assets of M16A1 ammo, (2) local purchase authority for 2M rounds and (3) draw down to basic load levels
  - G4 released A1 ammo for Knox and Leonard Wood to carry them through Jun, for ROTC and USMA to begin 3 Jun; TRADOC will request A1 ammo to carry all through Jul; G4 is researching whether local purchase is allowed for standard ammo; and G-4 is researching impact on early deployers before considering basic loads
- What compensatory measures are available?
  - Use unlinked ammo with magazines in lieu of linked ammo – although both short
  - Restrict usage to initial military training rifle qualification
  - Restrict SAW usage to IN OSUT SAW qualification
  - Restrict usage to bona fide deploying units.
  - Restrict BCT/OSUT training to BRM tasks
- What is long range outlook?
  - No immediate fix; OSC does not have a date for testing suspect lots